

2019 Sask Volleyball Award Winners

Marlene Hoffman Volunteer Award

Intended for individual (s) who have donated their time and efforts to the promotion and development of volleyball within their local community

Lisa & Glen Jardine – Lisa has spent the past 4 years as President of QCVC. Lisa's dedication to volleyball in Regina and for QCVC has been extremely passionate. She, along with her executive has led QCVC to be the biggest club in Saskatchewan. Lisa was a parent who decided to join the QCVC executive as clothing coordinator, and then that led her to President. She has seen many changes over the years within the volleyball community but never wavered from her beliefs for QCVC and finding a place for every single girl to play on a team. She would have many sleepless nights worrying about coaches and the club but still it is known to this day as one of the great clubs in Saskatchewan. Lisa along with her husband Glen, have always been a part of volleyball in Saskatchewan and could be found watching their kids Rachel and Alden. As well as watching they would be the first to score keep, Glen would do lines, run the 50/50, help put in floors for Nationals held in Regina for Volleyball Canada and countless hours volunteering for RVC and QCVC. Glen was equipment manager for QCVC for years and could be counted on to make sure the coaches were ready to go at the start of each season and look after the mass amounts of equipment required to run a large club. Lisa and Glen have been strong advocates for both boys' and girls' volleyball through both QCVC and RVC in Regina and have made many friends along the way and will have lasting friendships for years to come.



Patrick Winand – Patrick has made many contributions to the sport of volleyball in Saskatchewan. Every gym you go in, be it a girls or guys event, everyone knows his name and what he has done for the province. He has gone out of his way to grow the sport of volleyball, especially in South East Saskatchewan. He has given opportunities to rural athletes. He served on the Board of Directors as the program coordinator and coach director for Regina Volleyball Club for several seasons and the number of male athletes grew the season he joined and has continued to grow. He coached high school to another gold medal this past year at provincials. He hosted non-competitive and competitive beach and indoor clinics in Regina, Englefeld, and Rose Valley where he volunteered a great amount of his time. Patrick worked at Volleyball Canada nationals this year for the second time. He cares about the families in Saskatchewan and the kids and knows most by name. Patrick is professional and has made sure to give Sask Volleyball a positive name wherever he goes. We wish him luck at Kings University in Edmonton as Patrick pursues his coaching career. Patrick you will be missed in Saskatchewan.



Coaching Awards

The recipients of these awards shall be coaches that have made a special contribution as a coach to the development of the sport of volleyball:

Male Developmental Coach of the Year – Jamie McDougald – Jamie spent the first 19 years of his career in education; as a teacher, coach, athletic director and school principal. During this time, he coached volleyball, as well as variety of other sports, at Quill Lake School, Greenall High School, Taipei American School and Singapore American School. After 10 years overseas, Jamie and his family repatriated in 2013 to pursue a business opportunity. Now the Chief Operating Officer of the Deveraux Group of Companies, Jamie juggles a busy career with his passion for coaching volleyball. Jamie joined the Regina Volleyball Club (RVC) in 2018 as the Head Coach of the 13U program. Along with Assistant Coach Larry Somers, Jamie cultivated an interest in volleyball amongst the boys that has seen unprecedented interest and growth at the younger age levels within the club. In 2019, they then guided the RVC 14U Green team to a top seed in the Province and culminated the season with a Provincial Championship. At the time Jamie stated that while he had enjoyed the good fortune of coaching hundreds of athletes, both in club and school volleyball, and that while he had won a few tournaments along the way, the Provincial Championship was extra special. He was able to celebrate it with his son, Jaxon, and his teammates on Jaxon's 14th birthday.

After provincials the same team then challenged themselves by entering the 15U National Championships in Regina. While there were a few humbling moments playing up an age category, the boys pushed most every team they faced to a third set despite being the youngest team in the tournament. With his son now attending high school at Brentwood College on Vancouver Island, Jamie has decided to devote his coaching efforts to the Queen City Volleyball Club (QCVC), coaching his daughter at the 13U level for a second year in a row. Jamie's commitment to building solid fundamental skills and a love of the game is what makes him a great developmental coach and so successful in working with young players who are just learning the sport.



Female Developmental Coach of the Year – Wendell Haugen – Wendell has been coaching volleyball since the early 1970's and is one of the founding members of the PA Optimist Toppers Volleyball club in 1982. He coached Toppers "Bantam" teams for several years until his son began playing, he then started coaching boys volleyball for a few years. During these early years, he won a handful of Provincial Championships at both the club and high school level. Wendell returned to coaching elite bantam girls teams again in the early 1990's until 2005 when he moved to Hong Kong, China. Since returning in 2009, he has volunteered as an assistant coach providing mentorship to new coaches in the club. Even when Wendell wasn't part of the Toppers coaching staff, he was always willing to lend a hand at tryouts or help a new coach run practices at the beginning of the season. In 2015, he returned to the club as a head coach and fell in love with the developmental aspect of 13U and has been coaching at that level ever since. His team had a phenomenal 2019 season winning four medals in four tournaments, including a Provincial silver medal. Wendell will be returning to coach the 13U En Fuego team for the 2020 season. Toppers Volleyball club is lucky to have a resource like Wendell. He has a wealth of knowledge that can only be gained by experience and he has the ability to teach the game so the kids understand it.



The recipients of these awards will be club coaches who have achieved notable success as a coach during the current year.

Male Performance Coach of the Year – Derek Smith – Derek was an excellent choice to coach the 2019 PAVC 16U Men this past season. He proved that he has the ability to teach and motivate the team to improve their skill over a 5 month period. Derek was a former volleyball player who was a tremendous player in the 1990's. He was an All-Star at 1995 18U Nationals in Charlottetown before continuing his playing career with the U of S Huskies. His 16U team enjoyed tremendous success on the court: Gold medals were won at Sask Cup #1, HVC Tournament and PAVC Tournaments. The team also competed with great results at the 18U Sask Cup #2 and Best of the West in Calgary. The team won the Silver medal at 16U provincials. At the 2019 Nationals in Toronto, the team advanced all the way to Tier 1 and finished in a tie for 5th place! A great result for a small community competing against teams from Calgary, Toronto, Ottawa, etc. The 5th place overall finish was the highest finish of any Sask Volleyball teams in the 2019 National Championships. Congratulations Derek on a successful season.



Female Performance Coach of the Year – Reanne Reider – What is winning if you aren't having FUN?

This is where Reanne Reider comes into the winner's circle! This highly competitive woman wears her heart on her sleeve, and is so fun to watch from the sidelines! This coach has an energy and vibe that is evident in all that she does. She has coached multiple teams, some simultaneously, at club and high school levels, mini summer camps, as well as one on one personal development sessions. Many athletes have gone on to play at higher levels of competition both provincially and nationally. Reanne has the ability to bring out the best in her athletes because she gets to know them in a personal and compassionate way while incorporating a "lets have fun and celebrate while we are at it" kind of attitude. Her last two club seasons as the Lightning head coach have brought back to back gold medal provincial championship wins. This success with young women comes from the understanding and passion she has for youth. When she welcomes a person to her team she welcomes them unconditionally into her world and her life. You are her family. Reanne works with her players to bring out the best in them and takes them to the next level. The love this woman has for her players and the game goes beyond the court and the club or school season. WINNING vs MEMORIES....Reanne has been able to succeed at both! Thanks Reanne for putting FUN back into the game!



Academic and Athletic Excellence

Presented to the provincial female and male athlete who best exemplifies athletic and academic achievements of excellence.

Darcey Busse Memorial Award –Drew Kirk – originally from Langenburg, Saskatchewan, is the definition of excellence in both fields of academics and athletics. His character, work ethic, and commitment to being a student-athlete is that of an experienced veteran. Drew spent his last couple of volleyball seasons representing our province through Team Saskatchewan and Regina Volleyball Club, where he dominated as a middle and outside attacker. In both the 2018 and 2019 club seasons Drew offensively led his team to be number one in the province within his age groups, and even finished among the top four in tier one at Volleyball Canada Nationals. In addition, Drew exemplified dominance as he started as the right-side attacker that captured a silver medal at the 2018 Canada Cup. During this journey, Drew was one of the youngest players on the roster and had the single highest attack percentages on Team Sask versus both Alberta and Ontario. Drew has received numerous prestigious MVP athletic awards, including all-star recognitions from his high school, Best of the West, Saskatchewan Provincials and Volleyball Canada. Drew displayed fearless qualities playing as an eagle at Langenburg Central School. There, Drew worked hard to obtain multiple academic scholarships his senior year, as he maintained an average of high proficiency throughout grades ten to twelve. His timeless efforts have shown he is able to make his studies and family a priority, but yet he has still confidently executed success in all areas of his extra-curricular life. Above and beyond volleyball he was a phenomenal multi-sport track and hockey athlete at the provincial level throughout all of high school. Drew is a perfect reflection of the quote, “I am, because WE are” – as anyone that knows Drew and the Kirk family will know that his teammates and the good of the team always come first. Drew will be continuing education at the University of Manitoba in the field of Criminology. He will skillfully and proudly wear a Bison’s jersey, as he competes on the U SPORT volleyball team.



Laurie Ann Leier Memorial Award – Devyn Ethier – Devyn is an accomplished and decorated athlete in multiple sports, but volleyball is the sport she chose for her Post-Secondary journey. Her passion, dedication, commitment, leadership and athletic ability make her a terrific teammate and a fierce competitor. She credits her love and success in volleyball to some terrific coaches she has had along the way. She played for the Smash volleyball club most of her club years, and finished with Junior Huskies this past season. Devyn has been a provincial champion in fastball three times, club volleyball in 4 of her 6 years and represented Saskatchewan as a provincial team member in both basketball and volleyball. This past summer she was a member of the 18U Provincial Women’s Team that made history by winning the National Title at the Canada Cup in Halifax, NS. Devyn was counted on for on-court leadership, solid and consistent play in the backcourt and at the net, and was often tasked with getting the critical point. Her positive spirit and upbeat nature, paired with her winning smile that is always present, make her a terrific teammate, and her unreal drive in the weight room makes her a beast on the floor. As impressive as her court presence is, she also excels in the classroom. Her 90+ academic average opened up many opportunities, but playing for the hometown U of S Huskies was her goal! Devyn is currently in her first year as a Huskie athlete and is enrolled in Edwards School of Business. Devyn is a terrific recipient for the Laurie Ann Leier Memorial Award and we congratulate her on this honour!



Athlete of the Year – Beach

Youth Beach Female –Jordyn Exner – Jordy is a hard-working athlete from Regina Beach who has taken it upon herself, along with her partner Courtney, to dedicate her summers to the pursuit of beach volleyball. With a beach court in her back yard, she spends countless hours practicing at home as well as training with VOGO's Regina academy for the last two years. Finishing fourth in the 14U category as an underage athlete in the 2018 Beach Provincial Championship, Jordy and her partner set a goal for the 2019 season and succeeded by winning the 14U Provincial Championship this year. They entered many tournaments this summer as underage players, including the Manitoba High School Beach provincials, Alberta Premier Beach tournament, and Volleyball Canada's Beach Nationals in Toronto - where they won a Tier 2 Silver medal. Jordy is currently finishing up her school's indoor volleyball season with Lumsden High School, about to start indoor club volleyball, and training with VOGO for the Prairies Fall Indoor Beach Volleyball Championships in Winnipeg, which her and Courtney won last year.



Youth Beach Male –Josh Thorson – Josh came into every single session prepared to work. He arrived early to help set up courts and stayed after to help clean them up. It was evident from day 1 that Josh was fully invested to not only become a better beach volleyball player but become a student of the game. He was always asking the right questions and always trying to make the adjustments needed. He was a leader and a great representative of the province. His potential in the sport is limitless with his work ethic. We look forward to seeing Josh's development as a beach player and indoor as well. Congratulations Josh.



Athlete of the Year – Indoor

16U Female – Jordy McEachern – Jordy played with the 17U CVC Regina Cougars in the 2018-19 club volleyball season, and she was the other half of the dynamic duo at power who were instrumental in helping lead the team to a winning streak of 33 consecutive matches in the last part of the season, which culminated with the team winning the 17U Provincial Championships Title and an outstanding showing at Nationals. Jordy is an intense competitor and can best be described as being steady, fearless, relentless, supportive, respectful, a good team leader.....all this while being a 16U age class athlete. Jordy, like her power hitting partner Bailey, is an outstanding all-around player and athlete excelling offensively and defensively, as well with her blocking, serve receive, and of course, her serving. On offense Jordy is a dominant attacker with both “in-system” and “out-of-system” balls, which very few athletes can do effectively at this age class. Jordy is outstanding defensively, and on serve receive she passed over 2.0 throughout the season. Jordy also has an absolutely nasty jump float serve, that scored multiple points for her team, no matter what the level of the opponent was that was faced. Jordy is an excellent leader on and off the court, supporting both her teammates and coaches, throughout the entire season. She is very coachable and is able to take feedback and make corrections. It is also to be noted that Jordy is also very respectful of all her opponents and other coaches. This previous summer Jordy represented Saskatchewan on the 15U Provincial Team, and was awarded the Team’s most Outstanding Player at the Canada Cup, and this past Summer she was named Captain of the 16U Provincial Team.



16U Male –Ethan Smith – Ethan Smith had an excellent 2019 Volleyball season. He was Team Captain of the PAVC 16U Men. The team enjoyed tremendous success on the court. Ethan is a dynamic player and a natural born leader with his calm, confident composure. He led his club team in all offense and defensive categories. His explosive jumping and attacking ability made it hard for teams to stop him. He led the team in kills but also more importantly he led the team in passing and defensive digs as well. Ethan was selected to be a member of the Sask Volleyball 16U mens provincial team and named team captain. At the end for Team Sask - Ethan played an important role with Team Sask as one of the key contributors on and off the court and the team won the bronze medal at the 2019 Western Canada Summer Games in Swift Current.



17U Female – Bailey Balaberda – Bailey played with the 17U CVC Regina Cougars in the 2018-19 club volleyball season, and she was instrumental in helping lead the team to a winning streak of 33 consecutive matches in the last part of the season, which culminated with the team winning the 17U Provincial Championships Title. Bailey also was outstanding at the 17U National Championships in Toronto, helping her team finish 13th in the Country in Div. 1. Bailey was the captain of the 17U Cougars and led by example on and off the court. Bailey can best be described as being dominant, intense, fearless, relentless, leadership, supportive, and respectful. On the court, Bailey was the total package, one of the best all-around players and athletes in a long time, excelling offensively, defensively, blocking, and on serve receive. Some good players excel at one skill, but Bailey excelled at all parts of the game, including playing to the best of her ability in pressure situations. On offense Bailey was the most dominant attacker in the Province at the 17U division, and led her team in kills. She was not only able to hit all angles on in-system attacking, but also excelled at out-of-system/trouble ball attacking. Coaches and opposing players in Saskatchewan and at the National Championships, often commented that their game plan was to stop #9, even if that meant attempting to triple block her. Bailey was outstanding on defense, where she dominated as well. On serve receive, she passed nearly a 2.0 throughout the season. Bailey was also an outstanding blocker, and had a good jump float serve.

Bailey is an excellent leader on and off the court, supporting both her teammates and coaches, throughout the entire season. She is very coachable and is able to take feedback and make corrections. It is also to be noted that Bailey is always very respectful of all her opponents and other coaches. This past Summer Bailey represented Saskatchewan on the 16U Provincial Team, and was awarded the Team's most Outstanding Player at the Canada Cup.



17U Male – Nic Barker – Nic had an excellent 2019 volleyball season. Nic, in only his second year of playing volleyball led the PAVC 17U men to a 7th place finish at the 2019 18U provincials. The PAVC 17U men placed higher than all the other 17U men's teams at provincials. Nic's skill improved tremendously during the year. He transitioned from a middle blocker to an outside hitter and scored points on attack at an extremely high rate. Nic was selected for the 2019 Sask Volleyball 17U men's provincial team and competed in Halifax at the Canada Cup. Nic's high vertical and point scoring ability made an impression on many University coaches in attendance and he has a great future in sport!



18U Female – Jayda Harder - Jayda was the captain of the Jr. Huskies 18U Club team and the 18U Saskatchewan Provincial Team this past year. She ended her high school career with some incredible accomplishments. The Jr. Huskies placed top 2 at all Sask Cups, winning 2 gold medals and one silver, then Jayda lead her team to a Provincial Gold Medal! They also won silver at the Best of the West prestigious tournament in Calgary. Jayda also was a driving force behind the incredible, history making success of the 18U Women's Provincial Team where this past summer, they won the National Championship in Halifax, Nova Scotia. She was ferocious at the net and an aggressive offensive weapon. Jayda has always been a determined volleyball player that is never satisfied with her effort or pursuit. She tries to better herself and her teammates by putting 110% into practices and competitions, and is one of the most coachable and driven athletes. She treats her opponents, coaches and refs with respect but plays with tenacity and intensity on the court. Jayda graduated high School with high honors and gave back by volunteering at two volleyball camps this past summer. She is playing post secondary at Trinity Western University in Langley, British Columbia where they are looking for great things from her. Jayda is very deserving of this recognition, and we can't wait to see what's in store for her in the future! Congratulations Jayda!



18U Male – Henry Rempel – A promising talent from a young age, Henry excelled in all that he did. His early years in Wymark allowed him to gain an affinity for the sport of volleyball. Unfortunately, an accident in his grade 8 year would leave him with a shattered right leg and questions about his competitive future. A rod, 6 screws and a plate were able to repair his femur - the rest is history. Henry has been instrumental to the resurgence of the volleyball program in Swift Current. His ability to lead and encourage, sparked a fire in his teammates that lead to several Provincial Championships at both the high school and club levels. This success lead to accolades from across the country and he was recognized for his efforts with a selection to the Youth National team in his grade 11 year and this Fall, he will begin his post-secondary journey at Trinity Western on a full scholarship. Good luck Henry in your future volleyball endeavors!



21U Female – Mandi Fraser – Mandi has grown into a wonderful person and a very good volleyball player. Her growth over the past few years has been enjoyable to be a part of, which makes her very deserving of this award. All of her hard work and dedication is paying off and we look forward to what the future holds for Mandi!



21U Male – Dylan Mortensen – Dylan Mortensen is entering his 4th year at the University of Saskatchewan and 3rd season with the Huskies. Dylan is in the Edwards School of Business at the U of S and is focusing on a major in the area of Finance. Dylan would be the first to admit that he was a late bloomer as an athlete. He grew 8 inches in the summer before grade 12 and his first year as a Huskie was used as a red-shirt season to mature more as a high performance athlete. Dylan is an outside attacker for the Huskies and is already one of the best volleyball players this province has ever seen. His skill-set is immense. He is crafty, reliable, unbelievably dynamic, and he will only get better as he gets older. Dylan was named as the Canada West Rookie of the Year and the USport Rookie of the Year in the 2017-2018 season as well as being selected as a Canada West Second Team All-Star in 2018-2019. This past summer Dylan was a member of the Team Canada B Team which travelled to Mexico and the Team Canada FISU team that competed in Italy. Dylan is very deserving of the Sask Volleyball 21U Male Indoor Athlete of the Year!



Saskatchewan Players on National Teams

Junior Men's Team Summer 2019

Braedon Friesen

Senior Men's B Team 2019

Dylan Mortensen

Derek Epp